

Remarks/Arguments

Applicants have cancelled Claims 20–65 and have not added any new claims. Therefore, Claims 1–19 are currently pending in this application. Claim 1 is independent.

Claims 20–24 and 26–30 stand rejected as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,535,202 (“Amari”). Claim 25 stands rejected as being unpatentable over Amari based on U.S. Patent 5,340,955 (“Calvillo”). Applicant has cancelled Claims 20–30 without prejudice to their presentation in one or more continuation applications, and therefore respectfully requests that these rejections be withdrawn.


Although certain claims have been cancelled, Applicants are not conceding here that the cancelled claims are not patentable over the cited references. Rather, any amendments or characterizations are being made to facilitate expeditious prosecution of this application. Applicants reserve the right to pursue at a later date any previously pending or other broader or narrower claims that capture any subject matter supported by the present disclosure, including subject matter found to be specifically disclaimed herein or by any prior prosecution. Accordingly, reviewers of this or any parent, child or related prosecution history shall not reasonably infer that Applicants have made any disclaimers or disavowals of any subject matter supported by the present application.

In view of the foregoing amendments, Applicants submit that this application is in condition for allowance, and respectfully request the same. If, however, some issue remains that the Examiner feels can be addressed by an Examiner's Amendment, the Examiner is cordially invited to call the undersigned for authorization.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE MARTENS OLSON & BEAR LLP

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By: 

Kyle F. Schlueter
Registration No. 54,912
Attorney of Record
Customer No. 20,995
(310) 551-3450

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